

(C) his excellent treatment of all baseball fans in all stadiums and his community service both in the State of Maryland and throughout America; and

(D) all of his qualities and traits that helped him serve as a role model for all Americans; and

(2) wishes Cal Ripken, Jr. the best for what will undoubtedly be a productive and giving retirement.

SEC. 2. TRANSMISSION.

The Secretary of the Senate shall transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to—

(1) the legendary Baltimore Oriole Cal Ripken, Jr.; and

(2) the Baltimore Orioles' owner, Peter Angelos.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 75—TO EXPRESS THE SENSE OF THE CONGRESS THAT THE PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER MEDAL OF VALOR SHOULD BE PRESENTED TO PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS KILLED OR SERIOUSLY INJURED AS A RESULT OF THE TERRORIST ATTACKS PERPETRATED AGAINST THE UNITED STATES ON SEPTEMBER 11, 2001, AND TO THOSE WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE SEARCH, RESCUE, AND RECOVERY EFFORTS IN THE AFTERMATH OF THOSE ATTACKS

Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. WARNER, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. HELMS, Mr. CORZINE, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. VOINOVICH, and Mr. LIEBERMAN) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. CON. RES. 75

Whereas on September 11, 2001, terrorists hijacked and destroyed 4 civilian aircraft, crashing 2 of them into the towers of the World Trade Center in New York City, a third into the Pentagon, and a fourth in rural southwest Pennsylvania;

Whereas thousands of innocent Americans and many foreign nationals were killed and injured as a result of the surprise terrorist attacks, including the passengers and crews of the 4 aircraft, workers in the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, firefighters, law enforcement officers, emergency assistance personnel, and bystanders;

Whereas hundreds of public safety officers were killed and injured as a result of the terrorist attacks, many of whom would perish when the twin towers of the World Trade Center collapsed upon them after they rushed to the aid of innocent civilians who were imperiled when the terrorists first launched their attacks;

Whereas thousands more public safety officers continued to risk their own lives and long-term health in sifting through the aftermath and rubble of the terrorist attacks to rescue those who may have survived and to recover the dead;

Whereas the Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor Act of 2001 (Public Law 107-12, 115 Stat. 20) authorizes the President to award and present in the name of Congress, a Medal of Valor to public safety officers for extraordinary valor above and beyond the call of duty;

Whereas the Attorney General of the United States has discretion to increase the number of recipients of the Medal of Valor under that Act beyond that recommended by

the Medal of Valor Review Board in extraordinary cases in any given year;

Whereas the terrorist attacks against the United States on September 11, 2001 and their aftermath constitute the single most deadly assault on our American homeland in our Nation's history; and

Whereas those public safety officers who perished and were injured, and all those who participated in the efforts to rescue whom-ever may have survived the terrorist attacks and recover those whose lives were taken so suddenly and violently are the first casualties and veterans of America's new war against terrorism, which was unanimously authorized by the Authorization for Use of Military Force (Senate Joint Resolution 23, enacted September 14, 2001): Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That it is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the President should award and present in the name of Congress a Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor to every public safety officer who was killed or seriously injured as a result of the terrorist attacks perpetrated against the United States on September 11, 2001, and to deserving public safety officers who participated in the search, rescue, and recovery efforts in the aftermath of those attacks; and

(2) such assistance and compensation as may be needed should be provided to the public safety officers who were injured or whose health was otherwise adversely affected as a result of their participation in the search, rescue, and recovery efforts undertaken in the aftermath of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I stand today with my colleagues from New York and Virginia to honor those public safety officials, our police, firefighters, and emergency services personnel, who were lost, or seriously wounded in the attacks of September 11 and to public safety officers who participated in the subsequent search, rescue, and recovery efforts.

In a tragedy so horrific, when so many were lost so unexpectedly, there is little we can do to console a grieving family. A thank you won't console a child whose father won't be there to say good night. It's little solace to the men and women of a firehouse who even now are waiting to welcome their brothers and sisters home. But by showing our gratitude for their sacrifice, by saying a simple thank you, we can help heal the hearts of the men, women, and children who were left behind, or who struggled to save their friends and neighbors.

Today, my colleagues and I hope to be part of this process of healing by introducing a resolution recommending that the President award the Congressional Medal of Valor for Public Safety Officers to those public safety officials killed or seriously wounded in the September 11 attacks and to deserving public safety officers who participated in the subsequent search, rescue and recovery efforts.

These medals will serve as a thank you to those still with us. But I think they can do much more for the families who lost loved ones. I've seen how medals awarded in combat can help tell a story to a child about a lost loved one.

They can show a child and an entire family that their loved one did not die in vain. These medals can say that these men and women gave their lives in service to their neighbors and to their nation, and that nation is a grateful one.

History will mark September 11, 2001 as one of the darkest days in our Nation's history. In less than two hours, more Americans were killed than those who died during the Revolutionary War or the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor. Words cannot begin to capture our grief, our loss, or our resolve to strike back against global terrorism.

But in that darkest of hours, the bravery and selflessness of our public safety officials shined a light of hope for us all to follow. You see it reflected back in towns large and small across America. You see it in flag-lined streets, lines of blood donors, and in the millions contributed to help care for the victims families. The example set by our police, firefighters and emergency services personnel steeled the resolve of every American.

I would be remiss if I did not thank my colleague and the senior Senator from Alaska Senator STEVENS. Earlier this year the Congress passed, the president signed, the Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor Act, which was authorized by my friend from Alaska. That earlier recognition of the need to honor the heroism of public service officers makes today's resolution possible, and I thank my colleague from Alaska.

I should also note that Senator STEVENS has also introduced a resolution similar to the one we offer today. My resolution goes somewhat further by calling on the President to award the Congressional Medal of Valor to those killed and those seriously injured in the attacks and to deserving public safety officers who participated in the subsequent search, rescue, and recovery efforts.

The men and women this resolution would honor are the first victims of America's first war of the 21st century. My solemn prayer is that they will be the final casualties of a final war. But then I remember the destruction of the past century, how we spoke of a War to End All Wars, only to see the century unfold with more destruction. As we move closer to some form of military action, I hope for a day when we can stop throwing more young lives into the breach and instead repair the breach itself.

But today, to these new fellow veterans, we say thank you. A grateful Nation has drawn its strength from the courageous firefighters, police officers, and emergency services personnel who have sacrificed so much without hesitation. It is my privilege to have this chance to say thank you in this small way. I want to thank my colleagues from New York and Virginia. I hope we can move this resolution forward with the help of all of my colleagues.